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1918
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No 17,198.

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HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1918.

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Colony should apply in person at the
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Applicants will be required to produce
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persons, with certain exceptions, who
remain in the Colony for more than
7 days are required to register them-
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PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of
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and at all Police Stations.
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WHICH ARE THE SHARERS OF
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THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS
ASSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUNDS at 31st December, 1914.
\$23,970,367.
I—Authorized Capital \$5,000,000
Subscribed Capital \$4,000,000
Paid-up Capital \$2,437,600
II—Fire Funds 3,837,047
III—Life & Annuity Funds 17,595,590
Sinking Fund Account 128,250

Revenue Fire Branch \$2,381,456
Life and Annuity 2,141,593
Branches 337,239
Revenue Marine Department 473,940
Other Receipts 25,339,228

The Accumulative Funds of the various
Branches are separately invested, and, by
Act of Parliament, are not liable to meet
the claims under the respective Depart-
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SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

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7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
2.45 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS	
8.00 p.m. and 9 p.m.	9.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m., every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m.	every quarter of an hour.
SUNDAYS	
8.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12 Noon	Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
4.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
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NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.	

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No Season Ticket will be issued until
payment therefor has been made in Bank
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Hongkong, April 11, 1911.

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WONG PING WA, Manager

Hongkong, April 1, 1912.

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"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

THE W.A.R.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

**FIGHTING VALUE OF NEW
SMALL TANKS.**

SHOWN IN RECENT BATTLE.

A VAST IMPROVEMENT ON
THE OLD DESIGN.

London, June 30.

Reuter's Correspondent at French
Headquarters describes the impor-
tant part played in the battle of the
25th between the Aisne and the
Villers-Cotteret Forest by the new
small tanks which were for the first
time, engaged in considerable force.
He says:

They are about a quarter of the
size and weight of the ordinary bottle
Tank and carry a crew of two, of
whom one steers and the other
operates the gun and machine-guns.
The new Tanks are much faster than
the ordinary Tanks, and can climb
a slope which the latter could not
attempt, and can be swung com-
pletely round in their tracks in a few
seconds. Their small size and high
speed naturally make them a more
difficult target for the enemy's arti-
lery than the heavy Tanks.

The fighting on the 25th centred
mainly round Hill 162 and the Cutry
Ravine. Hill 162 is the highest
point in the region. Its possession
enables us to overlook the enemy's
positions in the rear. The Cutry
Ravine is a small deep valley im-
mediately to the north of Hill 162.
Its value for the enemy lay in the
fact that it contains deep subter-
anean quarries in which he was able
to keep large garrisons in dangerous
proximity to our lines and safe from
our guns. On each side of the Cutry
Ravine the ground rises steeply 300
feet. Farther to the left the right
slope is less sharp and the Tanks
were able to crawl up.

The French infantry stormed the
cliff-like ascent on each side and
passed round the head of the ravine.
They continued their advance to a
mile from the starting line in the
valley. The majority of the 1,200
prisoners were taken in the ravine.
The operation was effected without
preparation. All our objectives were
occupied, despite the nature of the
ground, within half-an-hour of the
opening barrage and before the
enemy had time to organise a resist-
ance. The ground on the right of the
three poplars was actually taken by
a charge of the light Tanks, which
crossed amid a hail of machine-gun
bullets, the infantry following. The
Tanks were accompanied by the in-
fantry, who took the Cutry Ravine,
and they rolled along the edge of the
ravine, firing down among the Ger-
mans crossing the plateau. Although
exposed to very heavy artillery firing,
the Tanks continued to assist the
infantry throughout the engagement,
one remaining under fire for over
four hours.

**COUNTER-ATTACKS AGAINST
FRENCH FAIL.**

London, June 29.

A French communiqué states:—
The Germans twice attempted to
drive us from the positions we cap-
tured yesterday.

A counter-attack by several bat-
alions between Poisson-Bas and
Havin-de-Cutry was repulsed, and
our new front was maintained in its
entirety. South-west of Rémilly
lively fighting occurred.
In the Fontaine-de-Billy sector
the Italians drove back detachments
which obtained a footing at the
advanced elements.

**MOST DEBATABLE POINT
OF THE FRONT.**

HOW THE BRITISH CAPTURED IT.

A BRILLIANTLY CARRIED OUT
OFFENSIVE.

London, June 29.

Reuter's Correspondent at British
Headquarters, telegraphing this evening,
says:—

We successfully advanced this
morning nearly a mile, capturing
ground at the most debatable point
of the battle front, just west of Bois
debut, which forms the north-west
angle of Nicppe Forest. This was
the point in the last Flanders offen-
sive at which the enemy thrust was
the hardest, in order to bring off a
dramatic attack on to the high ground
east of Kemmel. His possession of
the Forest would have opened the
way to an advance on Hazebrouk,
entailing possible retirement from
Ypres and the dismemberment of
our forces holding the hilly country
between Cassel and Scherpenberg.
The enemy's former attempts in
that direction, though frustrated,
rendered our position grumbling for
future operations. This morning's
advance was, therefore, designed to
enlarge our holding. The attack was
launched at six o'clock on a front
of 6,000 yards from Vieux-Berquin
on the left to Pont Tournant on the
right. The objective was the line of
a small street named Plate Beque,
1,500 yards away, which was attain-
ed completely and without hitch or
contrivance.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire
troops were engaged, and also those
from the Southern Counties. The
enemy made a fight, but never looked
to have a chance of winning. His
losses must have been considerable.
We took 250 prisoners in the main
attack, besides 44 in the attack north
of Plate Beque and six machine-
guns. The prisoners belonged to the
"Thirty-Second Saxon and the Forty-
fourth Prussian Reserve Divisions,
some of whom were poor specimens
of men and soldiers. They report a
considerable outbreak of influenza
among German troops.

Our losses were very light until
Beque was reached when two farms
houses, defended by machine-guns,
gave trouble. The operation, on the
whole, could hardly have been more
successful.

BRITISH AERIAL SUPREMACY.

CONTINUED ACTIVITY.

London, June 30.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig,
reporting on aviation, says:—
Hostile aerial activity on the 29th
was not great, but we destroyed nine
machines and drove down eight.
Five British machines are missing.
We carried out much important
reconnaissance work.
We dropped 154 tons of bombs
during the day on the railways at
Lille, Courrai, Comines and
Estaires. There was mutual bomb-
ing at night. The enemy did prac-
tically no damage and lost a machine.
We dropped 18 tons of bombs of
which eight tons fell on railway con-
nections at Tournai. All the British
night-fliers returned.

FRENCH IMPROVE POSITIONS.

London, July 1.

A French communiqué states:—
South of the Aisne we improved
our positions in the region of St.
Pierre-Aigle and took 100 prisoners.
It is quiet elsewhere.

(Continued on Page 3.)

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG STEEL FOUNDRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE EIGHTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above company will be held at the Company's Office, 54, Des Voeux Road, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd July, 1918, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of presenting the Report of the General Managers, and Statement of Accounts to 31st May, 1918. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 24th June to 3rd July, 1918, both days inclusive.

GORDON & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, June 24, 1918. 645

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

JUNKET

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COULOMMIER CHEESE.
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Nourishing and ideal food.
DEVONSHIRE CREAM
Can always be had.
We supply Junket Table on application.

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Best of Food and Service.

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Telephone No. 2567.

We guarantee the quality of our Bread and Cakes.
We use the highest grade of materials in their Manufacture.

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(BILLY WILLIAMS)
COMEDIAN.

When Father Papered the Parlour
(Don't go out with Him to night.)

Wake up John Bull
(I'll lend you my best Girl.)

Where the Crowd goes
(Let's have a Song on the Gramophone.)

I never heard Father Laugh so much
(My Lass from Glasgow Town.)

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FURNISHED HOUSE at PEAK, for
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Write stating full particulars to—
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Hongkong, June 27, 1918. 1355

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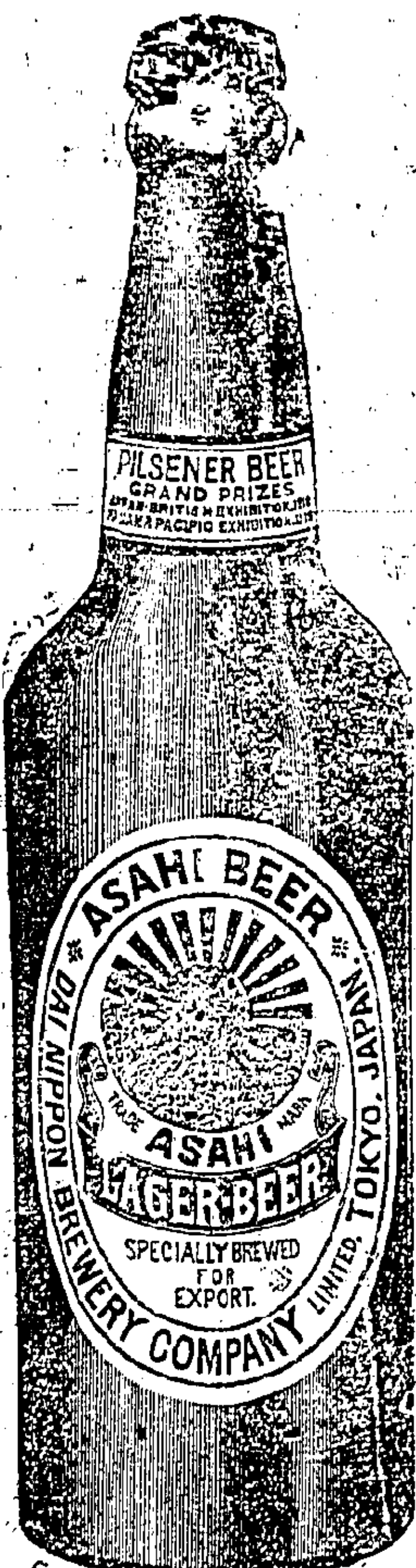
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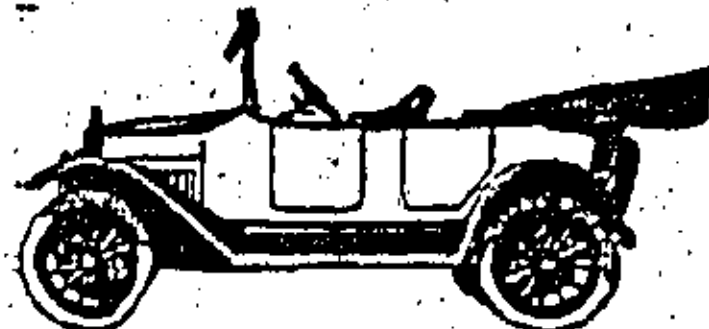
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for the Pipe

HUNS' FREAK GUN.

BUILT CHIEFLY FOR POLITICAL
PURPOSE.

VIEWS OF AN EXPERT
ARTILLERIST.

The new German long-range gun, which has bombarded Paris, is in my opinion purely a freak weapon, built for purely political purposes, says a writer in a home paper.

A natural question to ask is whether such a gun is worth the money. As far as I can see, it may have a slight moral effect on the people of Paris, but not even this gun will greatly disturb the French.

To people "in the know" in this country the so-called German "surprise" is not so startling as it would appear at first sight. Germany is not the only country with long-range guns. For years the United States have had huge 20-inch coast defence guns capable of sending a projectile a great distance. But in the case of the German gun, the elevation of 45 degrees, such a gun might not shoot accurately, but on a target as big as Paris there would be no difficulty in dropping shells.

There is nothing impossible, therefore, in the German gun. In fact, all things considered, if engineers in this country were called upon by the authorities to produce a gun of a similar nature, it is quite within the bounds of possibility and well within the knowledge we already possess.

ITS LENGTH.

The suggestion that the German gun is 250 calibres long seems to me to be rather wide of the mark. It is more probable that its extreme length is 100 to 200 calibres. Even then it would present many structural difficulties, which require a great deal of attention. For many reasons the theory that the German gun is 250 feet long is absurd. Un-

less it was enormously strong, it would bend when elevated, and no gun beyond 100 feet in length could be stiffened up sufficiently to prevent this. Then again, I don't believe there is a single machine in Germany capable of wiring such a gun. The metal also has to be hardened and tempered, and the process of tempering means that the gun would have to be lowered into a bath 250 feet deep! It may be interesting to state that within recent years a noted ordnance engineer is reported to have experimented with a small bore gun 100 calibres long, and the problem before us would be to reproduce this gun in larger calibre. As we have accomplished much in this war unknown to the public, we shall undoubtedly yet be able to go one better than even we have dreamed. Any artilleryman can tell of the high velocity obtained in firing shells with a good weight and good quality of powder behind them, and with a suitable projectile. And even with such a gun as the Germans must obviously be using, you can determine the range with a real degree of accuracy.

SHELL WITHIN A SHELL.

Now consider the theory of a shell within a shell. That, I think, is highly probable. But here again accuracy is the difficulty. If we take an ordinary 16 in. or 18 in. shell, cut and hollowed in the middle, we could put inside it a 9.5 in. shell behind which would be an explosive charge fired by means of a time fuse. If the large shell were fired at an angle of 45 degrees and the explosion within it timed to fire at the extreme elevation of its trajectory, it might easily take a different course. This is a problem which would have to be overcome. But the difficulty would be to make certain that the smaller shell would continue on the same course and instead of continuing in a straight line at the same trajectory, it might easily take a different course. This is a problem which would have to be overcome. Whether the Germans use such a freak gun bombarding Paris, it is certain that their "life" cannot be a very long one. We know that from our own experience, and we also know that as we increase range we decrease at a vastly greater ratio the effectiveness of such weapons. Another problem for the Germans would be the mounting on which their guns is placed. It would have to be special in its

character, but not by any means impossible of manufacture. At the same time, its direction would have practically to be fixed, as to secure such range it must be practically buried in concrete. The only antidote to such weapons is to discover their locality by aircraft, and then plaster them with giant bombs. This, no doubt, our French friends are trying to do.

THE WOMAN POLICE.

Few people in London realise, writes the "Hospital," the admirable work which the new woman police are doing in the streets. In the agglomeration of broken humanity sucked under night after night for want of guidance and restraint are many who come eventually into infirmary or hospital wards to be refitted, if possible, for a new life or end what has proved a tragic failure. To nurses the truth regarding these waifs and strays of civilisation, often pitifully young, is clear enough. Had half the money and energy needed to repair disaster been spent on intervening to ward off danger before it was too late a useful future might have been their lot, instead of suffering and shame. The woman police are as a strong, calm defensive outpost for their sisters, often for their brothers also, entangled in dangers they neither understand nor can altogether avoid. The mere arrival on the scene of a woman constable is often enough. Their trained discrimination between an exhibition of restless vanity and that of vice is seldom at fault, and the quiet restrooms which they have at their disposal in central situations have proved the turning point in many careers destined to all appearance to end in the police cell.

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Is the man who has blood—
real rich red blood and
plenty of it—in his body.

**WATERBURY'S
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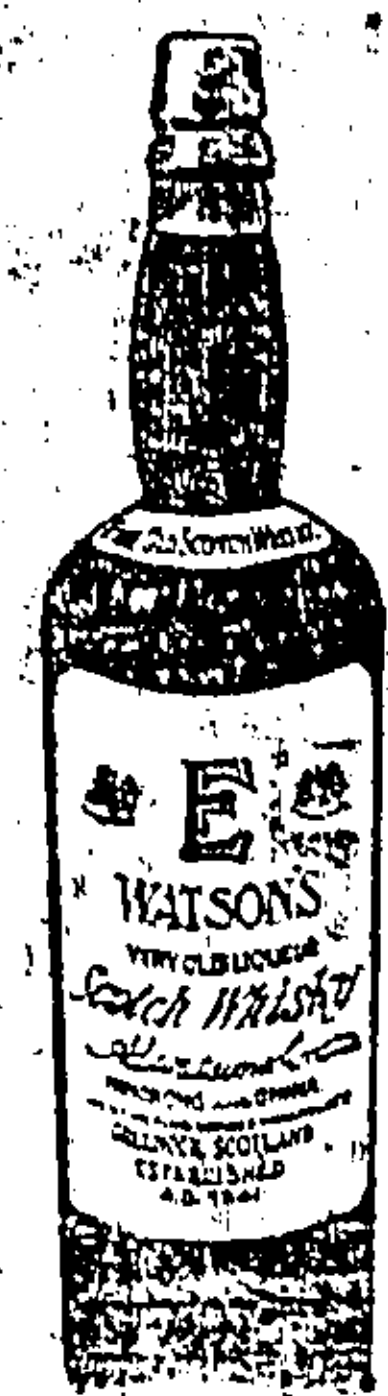
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A.W. LOON					
No. 1 Dock, Rowson	700	100' 0" (10' 0" beam)	20'	5'	5' 11"
No. 2 Dock, Rowson	211	24'	10'	5'	5' 11"
No. 3 Dock, Rowson	224	24'	10'	5'	5' 11"
Patent Slip, No. 1, Rowson	240	24'	10'	5'	5' 11"
Patent Slip, No. 2, Rowson	220	24'	10'	5'	5' 11"
TAL-KOR-2501					
Consolidation Dock	140' 0"	80' 0"	10'	5'	5' 11"
ABERDEEN					
Hope Dock	131	64'	10'	5'	5' 11"
Lease Dock	128	64'	10'	5'	5' 11"

Address Enquiries to the Chief Manager.



WATSON'S E

THE PREMIER SCOTCH OF
THE FAR EAST

FOR 25 YEARS.

POPULARITY MAINTAINED BY ITS EXCELLENT
QUALITY: NOT BY EXPENSIVE WORLD-WIDE
ADVERTISING.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.

Telephone No. 616.

To-day's Advertisements

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned have received instructions from R. J. STEVENSON, Esq., to sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,

the 12th July, 1918, commencing at 11 a.m., at "Tourelle," North Point, (near Government Quarry),

THE WHOLE OF THE
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD
FURNITURE,
etc., etc., etc.,
contained therein.

Consisting of—
—Massive Oakwood Sideboard, Dinner
Wagon, Extension Dining Table and
Chairs, Curio Cabinet, Crockery and
Glassware, Electro-plated and Silver
Dishes, Vases, etc., Carpets and Curtains,
etc., etc., 3 Single Beds, 2 Double Beds,
Wardrobes (Bevelled mirror), Chest of
Drawers, a quantity of Rattan Furni-
ture, tea Chests, etc., etc., etc.

PIANO by Grover & Grover, London,
and a GRAMAPHONE and RECORDS.
The view from Thursday, the 11th inst.
Catalogues will be issued.
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, July 2, 1918.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO Via
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS AND
SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship

"SHINYO MARU,"

The above named Steamship having

arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby

notified to send in their Bills of Lading for

re-shipment, and to take immediate

delivery from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered on

4th July, 1918, at 5 p.m. will be

landed at Consignees' risk and expense,

and delivery must then be taken from the

Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed on all

Cargo remaining undelivered on 4th

July, 1918, at 5 p.m.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be

effected.

No claim will be recognised after the

Goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

All chipped and damaged Cargo will

be landed into the Company's Godown,

where they will be examined on 4th

July, 1918, at 10 a.m.

No claim will be recognised if filed

after the 15th July, 1918.

T. DAIGO,
Manager.

Hongkong, July 2, 1918.

KODAKS
and FILMS,
PLATES
and PAPER,
DEVELOPING & PRINTING
UNDERTAKEN.
A. TACK & CO.,
26, Des Voeux Road Central.

THE CALENDAR.

MEM'S. FOR TO-MORROW.

11.30 a.m.—Hongkong Steel Foundry
Co. meeting.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household
Items, etc. at Hughes & Hough.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture, etc.
at Hughes & Hough.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

Thursday, July 4.—
American Independence Day.

Sunday, July 14.—
French National Fete Day.

HAZON TYPE NOT

NECESSARY.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, Cholera and

Diarrhoea Remedy needs no glowing

testimonials to attract the public eye. The

simple statement that all chemists sell

it is sufficient. No every family knows

its value. It has been used for forty

years, and just what it name implies.

Prescribed by all Chemists and Store-

keepers.

the patriotic work of men like Ch. Chien will have been wasted and it will be difficult to discern at what stage the Peking Government will stop in its frantic efforts to raise money. For "a certain country"—whichever it may be—to hold out such a glittering bait as \$20,000,000 to a Government in dire need of money, with little scruple as to how it is acquired, for a concession which can only be for the enrichment of the mortgagee, to the untold detriment of China, can hardly synchronise with a profession of sympathy and willingness to help China on to prosperity and contentment.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The new building for the Japanese Diet is estimated to cost ¥7,500,000.

The General Military Service Tribunal is to hold its first meeting in the Council Chamber at 3.30 p.m. to-morrow.

Five cases of cerebro-spinal fever (three fatal), 4 fatal cases of plague and one fatal case of enteric fever were reported in the Colony yesterday.

The Customs passport examiners at the Harbin station recently arrested two Germans from Shanghai who were carrying Russian passports which were issued in Shanghai. A German from Tientsin with a German passport has also been arrested.

A new British enterprise at Shanghai is the China Pencil Company Ltd. The company was conceived and originated by Mr. S. M. S. Gubbay, managing director, and Mr. Frank W. White, the secretary, and was incorporated April 18, 1917 at Hongkong, as a British limited liability company for the manufacture of lead pencils and erasables. The paid-up capital is \$100,000, consisting of 10,000 shares of \$10 each. The directors are Messrs. Percy Tiley, A. Black, R. S. Dugal, S. M. S. Gubbay, Chang Yau-liang, Frank W. White and Chih-shih. The installation, at the present, is capable of turning out 100 gross of pencils a day. The wood and graphite used in the manufacture of the pencils comes from America, and the management states that they will be able to compete with the best pencils in the market. Blacklead pencils, carpenter's pencils, coloured pencils, indelible pencils, coloured chalks, crayons, penholders, pencil and ink erasers will be manufactured by the company.

THE WANCHAI MURDER.

THE FUNERAL OF LATE PETTY OFFICER ADAMS.

The funeral of the late Petty Officer Adams took place, at 4.30 p.m. yesterday, at Happy Valley and in spite of the rain which came down in torrents all the way from the Royal Naval Hospital to the Cemetery, there was a very large number of mourners present. The coffin was covered with a profusion of floral tributes and was borne on a gun-carriage, drawn by deceased's comrades. Immediately preceding it marched the firing-party composed of men of H.M. ships under command of Lieut. Leese, R.N.R. The Rev. F. G. Hastings, Naval Chaplain, conducted the service at the graveside, and at the conclusion three volleys were fired over the grave and the "Last Post" was sounded.

Amongst those present were Commodore Gurney and Commander Gibson. Amongst those who sent wreaths were: H.M. ships in Harbour; Dockyard Police Mess; Committee, Royal Naval Canoe Club; R.N. Yard Police; R.N. Quadrilla Club; Dockyard Recreation Club, the Naval Yard; Royal Marines; Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.); Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Blake, Mr. J. C. Wilson, Mr. J. Spillbury, Gaudy, Price & Co., and Mr. East.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 29th June is as follows:

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate Receipts for 22 weeks.
This year	18,000	246,512
Last year	12,300	244,649
Increase	5,700	2,863
Decrease	2,731	3,084

The rainfall of Sunday and Monday totalled 4.30 inches, according to the Observatory measurements.

THE SUPREME COURT.

AN ADMINISTRATION QUESTION.

INTERESTING POINT ON CHINESE CUSTOM.

In the Supreme Court this morning, before Sir William Rees Davies, K. C. Chief Justice, application was made for a decision of the Court on the question of the right of the eldest son of a deceased intestate father, one Ho Chun Sun, to a double share of deceased's property, according to Chinese Custom, the Full Court, some time back, having held that Chinese law and custom applied.

The Hon Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Mattingly of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon and Hariton, appeared on behalf of the plaintiffs Ho Au Shi and Yeung Tai Chi. Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. Bulmer Johnston, of Messrs. Deacons, and Bowler, appeared for the defendant, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. Agassiz, appeared for the second defendant, and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. Davidson of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, appeared for the nine children of the deceased.

There was considerable discussion prior to the opening of the case as to which side had the right to begin, Mr. Pollock holding that since he represented the plaintiffs in the case and also that the matter was set down by their Lordships for further consideration on the application of the plaintiffs, he had the right to begin; on the other hand, Mr. Eldon Potter argued that he represented the claimants in the case and therefore had the right to begin.

His Lordship.—The only point I have to decide is whether the eldest son of a deceased and intestate father takes two shares of the property?

Mr. Pollock: It is rather a question as to what share do the sons respectively take.

After a lengthy argument, His Lordship held that the onus was upon Mr. Potter to prove his claim, and therefore he had the right to begin. Mr. Pollock said that he thought it would be better to take the evidence of Mr. S. B. C. Ross, the Postmaster General, first, as His Lordship would be more clear on the facts after Mr. Ross had been cross examined.

Mr. Eldon Potter agreed. In reply to Mr. Pollock, Mr. Ross said it was almost invariably the custom for the eldest son of an intestate father to take two shares in the property, but that did not apply to the whole of China. One share was given in respect of the grandson. When he (witness) referred to "law" in an affidavit sworn by him he did not have in mind the Tai Tang Lut Lai. That was the Criminal Code used up to the last Manchu Dynasty. Mr. Pollock: It is a law code, is it not, not a criminal code?

Mr. Ross: Every law in Chinese is really criminal, because a man might not be doing his duty to the State. Continuing, witness said he had read the Tai Tang Lut Lai many times, for his own amusement, but he did not make a special reference to it in connection with this case. He had read it, before he filed the affidavit, about ten years ago. He was aware that the Tai Tang Lut Lai dealt with the distribution of intestate's estates on death. He did not remember that the Tai Tang Lut Lai laid it down that the estate should go equally to deceased's sons. He knew there was a chapter on that point.

These matters were always settled by the elders of the deceased's village according to the custom of that village. He used the term "law and custom" because he was told that that term must be used in the affidavit. If the case were being heard in Chinese there could be no dispute between "law" and "custom." Chinese would understand at once what was implied. The deceased, in the present case, being a native of the village of Nam Chun, the elders of that village would deal with the estate according to the custom of the village. He had always assumed the existence of an ancestral estate for which allowance must be made. It would be unthinkable to the Chinese mind that there should be no ancestral fund. The Court had declared the deceased intestate, but a man cannot disintestate in China with regard to ancestral property. There was no such thing in China, in the English sense of the term. First there is the ancestral property, or fund which goes to the eldest son, then he also has a double share in the residue. It would be most laudable idea to a Chinese to divide the ancestral fund.

In the reply to Mr. Alabaster, Mr. Ross said if the elders of a village did know the law, they would still follow the custom of their village and not the law. The case is proceeding.

CAUSES AND CURE FOR

DIARRHOEA.

OVEREATING, a change in the temperature, "indigestion," and impure water are amongst the causes of diarrhoea. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy gives these bowels disturbance promptly, for sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

BRITAIN AND THE YANETSZE SPHERE.

ACQUISITION OF IRON MINES BY A JAPANESE SYNDICATE.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

London, July 1. In the House of Commons, replying to a series of questions by Sir Charles Hobhouse, the Foreign Under Secretary said the Government are aware of negotiations proceeding for the acquisition by a Japanese syndicate of the Feng Hungshan Iron Mines, but has no official information that the negotiations have been concluded. The mines are situated in the Yangtze River area which His Majesty's Government had always regarded as their special sphere of interest in China in the sense that British subjects possess a prior claim to favourable consideration by the Chinese authorities of applications they make for industrial concessions in that region, but they think that neither British nor any other foreign claim to spheres of interest in China should be pressed inconsiderately with the principle of the open door. Neither the British Ambassador nor the Foreign Office had been consulted in the matter.

THE MAGISTRACY.

UNSTAMPED LETTERS.

Whilst coming off a Canton steamer last night, a Chinese was arrested by a preventive officer and nine unstamped letters were found in his shoes.

When brought before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning, defendant pleaded guilty, stating that he had no excuse to offer. His Worship fined the defendant \$18 or 21 days' hard labour.

ALLEGED THEFT OF A BICYCLE.

John Constantino, a Greek cigarette hawk, was charged on remand with the theft of a bicycle.

At a previous hearing, it was alleged that the defendant was seen by a witness riding the bicycle along Nathan Road.

Defendant said he never rode a bicycle in all his life. On the day in question, he was at the City Hall waiting to see the Secretary of the Benevolent Society and spoke to her until a little after 11 o'clock. He hoped His Worship would make enquiries to find out the truth.

After further evidence His Worship discharged the defendant.

THE WOOD ROAD ROBBERY.

Lui Hon Hong, an Admiral of Lung Chai Kwong's fleet, was charged on remand, with being a confederate in the armed robbery at Wood Road recently. Mr. Hall, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, said that in view of the fact that his client had been in goal over a month he hoped the Magistrate would either fix a date or reduce the bail.

His Worship (Mr. Wolfe) reduced the bail to \$1,000.

AN OPIUM CASE.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of five taels-five mace and eight candereens of opium.

A loking said the defendant carried the opium in two biscuit boxes.

Mr. Goldring, who appeared for the defendant, said his client bought the opium for the use of his coolies. The law allowed him five taels.

After evidence had been heard, his Worship said he believed defendant's story to be a reasonable one. The defendant was discharged and the excess opium confiscated.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, C.P.E.

POLICE SCHOOL.

All members of No. 2 Co. (except those on duty) who did not attend for examination on June 24th or 25th will attend on Thursday next July 4th. Platoon Inspectors will attend.

RECRUITS.
Recruits of all units, other than those attached or transferred from H.K. Defence Corps, will parade under the Sergeant Major at Central Station at 5.30 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays until passed out. Uniform and helmet.

The first parade will take place on Friday July 5th.

RAVE PRACTICES 6 P.M.
Fridays, July 5th, 12th and 19th.
Tuesdays, July 9th and 16th.
By Order.

T. Y. HONG.

A.S.P. (R) and Adjutant.

Hongkong, July 2nd, 1918.

CRAMP COLIC.

NO need of suffering from cramps in the stomach, or intestinal pains. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy never fails to relieve the most severe cases. Get it to-day, there will be no time to send for it after the attack comes on. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

GREAT OPIUM SEIZURE AT MANILA.

HALF A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH INTERCEPTED.

The Manila *Caballeros* of the 26th ult. states:—"With all the accompaniments of medieval piracy, disguise, rendezvous, boat-thieving and exchange of shots, the Customs Secret Service intercepted contraband opium from the steamer *Fuenyung* on Sunday morning valued at half a million pesos, opium which the smugglers attempted to land some distance beyond Mariveles and with which the five men bired to fetch it ashore were caught red-handed. It is expected their confessions will lead to the rounding up of the "higher-ups"—rich Chinese merchants and possibly involving officials of the government occupying exalted positions.

The story is told in greater detail as follows:—Captain Arlegui, Chief of the Secret Service Division of the Bureau of Customs, knew this shipment was to come in for some time past, and he had been studying the case carefully, the results of four days of anxious and watchful waiting on the part of his agents.

These agents were sent to Mariveles Thursday morning, provided with maps of that part of the coast and sea, drawn to scale. They were ordered to disguise themselves as fishermen, which they did; and to keep in communicating distance of the telegraph office, which they also did. Sunday morning, having diligently tended their nets for three days, they received the orders which were to make them fishers of men. They were told to look out for the *Fuenyung*, coming in from Hongkong, and to meet her well out beyond the channel. Twelve men were retained as oarsmen and the agents proceeded to the route which the *Fuenyung* must take in getting into the bay.

This was after midnight, and five men in two bancas were the agents. At five in the morning the *Fuenyung* appeared. On the poop was a Celestial, giving off into the golden dawn a *Narai* side, apparently as wrapped in wonder at the coming day, was a member of the *Fuenyung's* crew. Near them was a goodly-sized bundle, and a goodly bundle, forsooth. Almost without thought, and certainly without second thought, the Celestial and his companion lowered it over the vessel's stern. What was it? Only an empty oil box, with two empty oil cans soldered air-tight, on one side and on the other side two rice sacks filled with 1,907 tins of opium, valued at not less than P500,000.

The five men in the two bancas made straight for the bundle and got it into one of their boats; then they stopped fishing. The secret service agents made straight for the five men in the two bancas, and likewise, lost interest in fishing.

A race for life ensued. A small launch put out from shore, made for the pursuing agents and opened fire on them. The agents drew their revolvers and returned the fire. Forty or fifty shots were exchanged. The launch retired, discomfited, and the agents looked about them, only to find their oarsmen had ducked into the sea, believing the *Huans* were upon them.

But the agents had been fishermen. They could not be oarsmen. The pursuit continued with the agents gradually gaining on the contrabandists. Presently they were close enough to overhaul them, and in desperation, fearing to be "caught with the goods on them," the fleeing smugglers dumped the opium into the sea, first putting it loose from its buoy. Down it went in 15 feet of water. One of the agents, Palco, an expert diver, marked the spot with his practiced eye. The smugglers were overhauled and arrested and placed in the Mariveles jail.

This done, the agents returned to the spot where the opium had been dumped overboard from the banca. For eight straight and steady hours Palco dived for the treasure, at last bringing it triumphantly up with him, after almost despairing of ever locating it. His companions had no little trouble in hauling him up with it. Palco weighs 170 pounds; the opium weighed not less than 300 pounds, after its bath in the sea. Having recovered it, however, the agents went back to Mariveles, and telegraphed back: "We met the enemy and he is ours," and after a night's rest returned to Manila with the spoils of victory.

One half million pesos worth of opium is the biggest opium haul made in a decade and one of the biggest hauls made in the history of the Islands.

Later reports state that the investigation has revealed the opium gang to be a quasi corporation, with agencies both in Manila and in Hongkong. The early arrest of a very well-known Filipino was expected in connection with the gigantic attempt to smuggle the prohibited drug into Manila.

On June 15th a haul of 500 tins of contraband opium was made at Zamboanga, by agents Lambly and Penlor. This was being smuggled in by Marcos and Ching.

When the last mail left Manila the officers of the *Fuenyung* were under summons to appear at the Customs House for investigation. The point at issue is the alleged change of route of the vessel. The Acting Collector, in possession of information to the effect that the *Fuenyung* made a substantial detour from the regular route of vessels from Hongkong, the supposed object having been to get in closer to shore. If the vessel is found to have been implicated, it is believed, says a Manila contemporary, that the *Fuenyung* will be a heavy one. Meanwhile no charges will be issued.

CONSCRIPTION FOR MALAYA.

It is now nine months since the Military Service Bill was introduced in the Straits Settlements Legislative Council, says the "Malay Mail," and six months since in an amended form it became law. Medical examinations under the Ordinance have taken place in the Colony. Whether they have been completed yet, we do not know. The statistics were incomplete two months ago. The objects and reasons of the Bill stated that the Bill would enable the Government to know the number of persons in the Colony affected by the Bill who are of military age, the number of such persons who are fit for the military work described in each of the three classes set out in the Army Council Instruction of 1917, and the circumstances which were material to be considered in determining whether any such person should be employed in war services beyond the Colony, when occasion arose for determining the question. We may take it, we think, that the occasion has arisen. Malaya has consistently been to the fore where military service was concerned. And the Straits Settlements would hardly be willing to lag behind Hongkong. The Colonial Government, therefore, may thank its lucky stars that it is adopted in the nick of time the registration (or Derby scheme) measure which unofficial opinion advocated three years ago.

The position of the F.M.S. in the event of the enactment of a Conscription Ordinance in the Colony offers material for speculation. The passage of the Military Service Bill through the Legislative Council was followed by the introduction of the Registration and Medical Examination Bill in the Federal Council. This was passed on April 9th. More than two months have elapsed, yet apparently there has not been the slightest attempt to carry out its provisions. It is possible that the local authorities have been making time in anticipation of a Conscription Bill. But the whole object of the Registration Bill was to save time. Speaking in the Federal Council in support of this Bill, H.E. Sir Arthur Young said (in reference to the Singapore statistics):—"Now we have certain information, useful information to Government, it may be decided at any time that there shall be practical completion for men to go to the Front from here." His Excellency went on to describe the F.M.S. Bill as a useful Bill in that it would save time hereafter in ascertaining who was fit and who was not fit to go to the Front. And yet nothing so far has been done. Two Registration Bills has not even been brought into force by publication in the "Gazette." If it takes five or six months to collect the necessary statistics in the Colony, it will certainly take longer in the F.M.S. With so scattered a population, more time will have to be allowed for filling up and sending in returns, and the medical examinations will occupy more time. The attitude of Government towards the Malaya Man-Power question has hitherto been sphinx-like. If it now decides to come out in the open and introduce a conscription measure, the decision, we think, will be generally welcomed. Everyone knows that a certain number of men must be kept for defence purposes and certain others for essential industries. How many men must be kept, what constitutes an essential industry, and who is not, this the Government, and the Government alone, can decide. Herein we agree with the "Free Press" against its correspondent "Commonsense." The latter made certain sound points in his letter, which we reproduced yesterday. But we imagine that the "several hundred indispensable men" of whom he writes would rather go before a tribunal and have their position settled once and for all than continue to endure the undesired gibes of anonymous writers in the public Press. Sir Arthur Young has told us that in Singapore there are 330 Class A men, of whom a certain proportion are indispensable. The four States of the Federation have between them given twelve hundred men to the Imperial Forces. How many eligible men remain, no one can say. It has been suggested to us that there are more estate assistants in the country than are needed. It may be so, and in that case more men might be spared. But we feel quite certain that practically all who intend to go have gone. Only legislation will move the others.

MME. JONESCU DIES AS RESULT OF RIDING ACCIDENT.

Mme. Jonescu, wife of the Romanian stationmaster, Mr. Take Jonescu, was thrown from her horse at the Serpentine bridge in Hyde Park recently, and sustained severe injuries to her skull.

Mme. Jonescu was conveyed to St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, where she died. Much sympathy was expressed for her husband, who was summoned from Paris. Mme. Jonescu was of English birth.

CAN YOU AFFORD THE RISK?

WERE you ever seized with a severe attack of cramp colic or diarrhoea without a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the house? Don't take such risks. A dose or two will cure you before a doctor could possibly be called, and it never fails even in the most severe and dangerous cases. Get it by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

BRITISH AND FRENCH AERIAL ACTIVITY.

FINE AERIAL ACHIEVEMENTS.

A French communiqué states:—
On the 28th and 29th 15 enemy aeroplanes were brought down and 19 others put out of action. Two captive balloons were set on fire.
Our bombing planes during the same period carried out day and night raids in which 47 tons of bombs were successfully dropped on aerodromes on the Somme, bivouacs at Rancourt, the Bray region, valley of the Aisne, railway stations at Soissons, Fismes-Toulon, etc.
Moreover, five tons of explosives were dropped on the 28th on German troops preparing a counter-attack in the Ouchy region.
Lieutenant Fohel brought down three enemy aeroplanes on the 26th and two on the 27th, making his official total 49.
Bombing squadrons did good work.
Two Air Ministry, in an official report, states:—
Bombing squadrons on Saturday night attacked the railway works at Thionville, the sidings at Metz and the aerodromes at Etzema and Boulay and other objectives. Misses prevented observation of the results. We dropped many bombs on Sunday on the Haguenau aerodrome with good results, and also the barracks and station of Landau. We destroyed three hostile machines over Landau.
Two British machines are missing.

AERIAL ACTIVITY IN THE BALKANS.

London, July 1.
A French Eastern communiqué states:—
British aviators lavishly bombed the Vardar Valley, Sores and the Druma Railway and brought down an enemy machine.

BATTLE IN ITALY.

ITALIANS CAPTURE MONTE VALBELLA.

PIERCE ENEMY ATTACKS FALL.

London, June 30.
An Italian official report states:—
Supported by our Allies, we captured Monte Valbella on the 25th after a bitter struggle. Large masses of the enemy counter-attacked during the day and at night. They were repulsed by our infantry and decimated by our artillery and aeroplanes and machine-gun fire. The position was victoriously held.
We took prisoner 21 officers and 788 men belonging to four Divisions, also cannons, trench mortars and machine-guns. We captured a well fortified post on the southern slopes of Sasso Rosso, taking 33 prisoners.

THE AUSTRIAN REPORT.

London, June 30.
A wireless Austrian official report claims that the Italian attacks on Monte Valbella were completely repulsed.

AUSTRIA'S ATTEMPT TO MINIMISE LOSSES.

INTERESTING ITALIAN REPLY.

Rome, July 1.
A semi-official reply to Dr. von Wekerle's speech declares that the latter constitutes an official admission of the immense gravity of the Austrian disaster. Dr. von Wekerle tries to soothe public opinion by doubling the Italian and halving the Austrian losses. Dr. Wekerle asserted that only 70 regiments, otherwise 200,000 men, participated in the battle. Therefore, the Austro-Hungarian losses, on his showing, were 50 per cent, but Austrian prisoners are agreed in stating that 42 Divisions, otherwise 400,000 men, were engaged. Therefore Dr. Wekerle's proportions, as corrected, show that the Austro-Hungarian losses were 200,000. Moreover, we took 16,000 and not 12,000 prisoners.

AUSTRIAN CABINET CRISIS.

EMPEROR DECLINES SEIDLER'S RESIGNATION.

Vienna, June 29.
A message from Vienna says the Emperor Karl has again refused to accept the resignation of Dr. von Seidler and his Ministry, and it announces the convocation of the Reichsrat.

HUNGARIAN PREMIER'S SPEECH CREATES A SENSATION.

London, June 30.
The sensation created in Austria by the Hungarian Premier's speech is shown by the fact that the official communiqué, published this morning, arrived before the report of the speech.

SERIOUS FOOD PROBLEM IN AUSTRIA.

London, June 30.
A telegram from Vienna says the Emperor Karl owing to the insupportable difficulties of food shortages has sent a letter to the Kaiser on the matter. A conference has occurred at main Headquarters, the Hungarian Food Minister participating. It is stated that an agreement has been reached relative to a joint and systematic utilisation of all grain stocks until the new harvest.

AUSTRO-GERMAN SOCIALISTS AND PEACE.

Amsterdam, June 30.
The Austro-German Socialists have informed M. Toulon (Dutch Socialist) that they favoured peace by understanding on the basis of the Stockholm declarations, but not on the basis of the Entente Socialist's Memorandum.

RUMANIA'S PEACE TREATY.

Amsterdam, June 30.
A message from Bucharest says the Rumanian Chamber sitting at Jassy on the 28th passed the Peace Treaty with the Central Powers. Only five Deputies, including General Avessent, opposed the treaty.

RUMOURS OF MURDER OF EX-TSAR NOT TRUE.

DESIGNED TO INCITE THE PUBLIC.

Amsterdam, June 30.
A message from Moscow via Berlin says the President of the Ekaterinburg Soviet telegraphs on the 24th that the rumours of the murder of the ex-Tsar are lies, and designed to incite the public.

RUSSIA'S BLACK SEA FLEET.

HOW GERMANY JUSTIFIES THE SEIZURE.

Amsterdam, June 29.
A Berlin semi-official message, describing the events leading to the seizure of the Black Sea Fleet, alleges a contravention of the Peace Treaty by the Fleet's continued activity.

The principal units went to Novorossiysk after the German occupation of Sebastopol. Acute differences of opinion on board the ships led to the Dreadnought *Sumbagdzh* being torpedoed by the destroyer *Kerch*, while several destroyers were forced to run ashore. However, the Dreadnought *Ulm* and several modern destroyers returned to Sebastopol on the 10th, "where the entire Black Sea Fleet still fit for war purposes is now under German control."

PART OF THE FLEET BLOWN UP.

CONDITION ON WHICH THE SHIPS RETURNED TO SEBASTOPOL.

Moscow, June 29.
The Foreign Commissary in informing the Press that a part of the Black Sea Fleet has returned to Sebastopol, while the other part blew itself up, says it was agreed to return the Fleet expressly on the condition that Germany and her allies would not use it in the war, and would return it to Russia after the war. He says this was the only condition on which the Fleet returned and that Germany stopped the advance of troops to Novorossiysk.

EX-COMMANDER OF BALTIC FLEET SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Moscow, June 30.
The Bolshevik Court has sentenced to death Captain Stehany, ex-Commander of the Baltic Fleet, on a charge of opposing and discrediting the Soviet rule. General Kiyenko was the prosecutor. The Central Executive Committee of the Soviets has dismissed the appeal against the sentence.

AUSTRO-GERMAN EX-PRISONERS OCCUPY IRKUTSK.

Amsterdam, June 29.
A message from Harbin, dated the 16th, confirms the report that Austro-German ex-prisoners have occupied Irkutsk.

KERENSKY IN PARIS.

London, June 30.
M. Kerensky is in Paris.

EXPORT OF NEW POTATOES FROM HOLLAND.

Amsterdam, June 29.
An official report states the Government has agreed that the export of new potatoes will be equally distributed among the belligerents.

50,000 TONS OF GERMAN COAL FOR HOLLAND.

The Hague, June 30.
An official report states the Government has agreed that the export of new potatoes will be equally distributed among the belligerents. Germany has undertaken to send 50,000 tons of coal to Holland in July.

PROTEST AGAINST THE EXPORT.

Amsterdam, June 30.
The *Telegraph* says new potatoes are already being exported to Germany at the rate of 50 wagon loads daily. The *Telegraph* protests against the export because a famine is expected in Holland in winter.

LIMBURG RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

NOT RESTRICTED TO GOODS FOR CIVIL USE.

The Hague, June 30.
It is semi-officially stated that the transport of German goods over the Limburg Railway is not restricted to goods for civil use in Belgium. The German-Dutch agreement does not provide that the transit of goods, such as timber, shall be dependent upon guarantees regarding their use.

AMERICA'S INCREASED WAR EXPENDITURE.

TWO MEASURES PASSED.

Washington, June 30.
The Senate has unanimously passed the Fortifications Bill, which entails an expenditure of 2,408 million dollars, and provides for an enormous increase in the manufacture of ordnance supplies. The Senate also passed the Army Appropriations Bill providing for an expenditure of 12,080 million dollars. Both measures will now go before the conference of both Houses.

ECHO OF BILLING CASE.

Amsterdam, June 30.
The Berlin newspapers state that Prince Wied first heard of the alleged existence of the "black book" mentioned in the Billing case on June 4th through newspaper reports of the trial.

BRITISH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

London, June 29.
The revenue for the quarter was £155,763,320, compared with £115,950,280 during the same period last year and the expenditure £729,976,677, compared with £671,296,778.

THE PRICE OF COTTON.

London, July 1.
Cotton is quoted at 11s. 1d.

GERMAN POTATO RATION REDUCED.

Amsterdam, June 30.
It is officially announced in Berlin that the potato ration is reduced from 7 to 5 pounds a week. Four hundred grammes of cereals are substituted.

PRISONERS OF WAR CONFERENCE.

BRITISH CIVILIANS FROM GERMAN INTERRED IN HOLLAND.

TO BE INCLUDED IN AGREEMENT.

Amsterdam, June 30.
Sir George Cave, House Secretary, and one of the British representatives at the British and German Prisoners of War Conference, in an interview, said he hoped that the Naval Division men and British civilians from Germany interred in Holland would be included in any agreement for the exchange of prisoners. He anticipated that the Conference would conclude shortly.

ROYAL SILVER WEDDING.

WOMEN WAR-WORKERS' HOMAGE.

London, June 29.
Three thousand women war-workers made a procession to London today and presented an address of homage to their Majesties the King and Queen on the occasion of their Silver Wedding. No fewer than 25 different uniforms were worn, presenting a remarkable and striking spectacle as well as testifying to the wonderful part British women have come to play in the winning of the war.

The King, addressing them at Buckingham Palace, paid a warm tribute to their splendid services and hoped that their labour might soon have its reward in a decisive victory and an enduring peace. He wished them Godspeed.

AIMS OF SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALISTS.

HEITZOG'S WARNING AGAINST VIOLENCE.

Johannesburg, June 29.
Dr. Heitzog in a speech reiterated his warning against violence, and declared that all that the Nationalists were seeking could and would be achieved by constitutional means alone. South Africa had enough of armed protests and unarmed rebellions. Nothing was to be feared in Orange Free State. He hoped that the Transvaal was imbued with the same spirit.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

MORE PRISONERS CAPTURED.

London, June 29.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
We captured over 400 prisoners in Friday's successful operation eastward of Nieppe Forest. This does not include those captured westward of Meris. Two field guns and a number of machine-guns and trench-mortars were captured. There is active hostile artillery firing opposite Vaire Wood, southward of the Somme and westward of Feuchy, also increased reciprocal artillery firing in the Nieppe Forest sector.

IMPORTANT RESULT ACHIEVED.

Paris, June 29.
A semi-official message states:—
The successful French attack, called earlier, enables the strengthening of the defence against any hostile attempt to surround the Forest of Villers Cottet towards Compiègne from the north. By pushing back the enemy line one kilometre east of Nieppe Forest the British advance, called on June 28, will have an important result in preventing any attempted German infiltration.

A BATTLE OF TANKS?

London, June 29.
Correspondents on the British front commenting on the increase in the number and variety of Tanks, predict that we shall soon see a pitched battle of Tanks.

SUCCESSFUL FRENCH ATTACK.

London, June 29.
Reuter's Correspondent at the French Headquarters, wiring yesterday, says:—
The advance made by the French this morning was between the Aisne and the Villers Cottet Forest, along the valley separating the Montigny and Dommeville Plateaux. The attack was made on a front of 2½ miles, the objective being the capture of a number of points which might be useful to the enemy in every fresh offensive chiefly in the Rossonbas valley, 2½ miles south of the Aisne, and two miles farther south below the crest of the eastern wall of the Valley. The French advanced 2½ miles in the morning and attained some of the objectives in 4½ hours, including Hill 162, which is 500 feet high, overlooking St. Pierre Aisne and Dommeville. The German artillery was dominated by our guns.

THE PENDING BLOW.

GERMAN GENERALS BRAG.

Amsterdam, June 29.
General Liebert writes to the *Tuigliche Handelsman* "It will not be long before another blow of the German hammer falls and the Entente will again be surprised when once more it falls precisely where they now do not expect it." He also says we must familiarise ourselves with the painful thought that our Allies were unable to carry through the assaults across the Plateau which was so badly and dashingly begun.

ANOTHER FRENCH SUCCESS.

London, June 30.
A French communiqué says:—
We, in raids, notably west of Hangard and south of Autrech, brought back prisoners. South of the Ourey in a local operation we captured at ten last evening the crest between Moisy and Passy-en-Vallée, thus advancing 800 metres on a front of three kilometres. We took 275 prisoners including three officers.

AMERICANS IMPROVE THEIR POSITIONS.

London, June 29.
An American official message says:—
We again improved our positions southward of Torcy. The prisoners taken in the operation of the 23rd new number 309.

THE GERMAN REPORT.

London, June 29.

A wireless German official message states:—
Three British assaults against Meris broke down. The enemy penetrated Vieux Berquin, but was thrown back by a counter-attack. We repulsed the French near Ambley, but they gained ground beyond Cutry. Our counter-attacks threw them back on the heights on both sides of Cutry.

AIR-RAID ON PARIS.

Paris, June 29.
An official message says:—
The air raid was made at 11.30. last night. Bombs were dropped but there were no casualties. The "all clear" signal was announced at 12.30.

THE DEFENCES OF PARIS.

Paris, June 29.
Newspapers criticising the anti-aircraft defence of the capital point out that even the most intense barrage rarely brings down enemies who descend low after penetrating. Numerous suggestions are made to improve the defences, including the mounting of machine-guns on monuments, creating a luminous zone and separate zones for guns and aeroplanes. Heavier reprisals against Frankfurt, Coblenz and Cologne are also demanded.

THE AUSTRIAN LOSSES IN ITALY.

EFFORT TO MINIMISE TOTAL.

London, June 30.
An official telegram from Vienna seeks to minimise the Austrian losses in the recent offensive which the Hungarian Premier, Herr Wekerle, is reported to have declared in the Lower House to be 100,000.
The telegram explains that Herr Wekerle's figures are due to a telephonic error. The losses were less than those of the tenth and eleventh Isonzo battles, which amounted to from eighty to a hundred thousand. Moreover the losses covered the whole period from the 15th to the 20th, and included sick.

AUSTRIAN DEFENCE MINISTER'S EXCUSE.

The Hungarian Minister of Defence, replying in the Lower House to criticism of the operations in Italy, said that nobody could have foretold the storm, which have been so tremendous, and the river swell, so a retreat was ordered according to plan.

HUNGARIAN PREMIER'S STATEMENT.

Amsterdam, June 30.
The Hungarian Premier, in a remarkable speech in the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament, said: "In the retreat from the Piave 12,000 prisoners fell into Italian hands and much more and is the loss we suffered in dead, wounded and sick. In the tenth and eleventh Isonzo offensives we lost between 80,000 and 100,000 men but now, however, our losses are similarly about 100,000."

THE NEW LABOUR EXECUTIVE.

PACIFISTS VASTLY IN MINORITY.

London, June 29.
A new Labour Executive was elected yesterday, under a "free" widened constitution. It consists of 21 members, 16 of whom are pacifists. The Executive is a vast majority of war supporters, but the additional members are mainly pacifists, thus increasing the pacifist section. It is noteworthy that the Minister, Mr. J. B. Clynes, has been returned at the head of the poll with over two million votes, being 400,000 more than the nearest competitor. The new chairman, Mr. James McHardy, of the Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Federation, is a determined supporter of the war policy.

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THE STRANGE CASE OF MARY PAGE

part of their troops to the Western

front which, in the interests of a com-

mon carrying on of the war, is without

doubt, the objective which it is also our

duty to attain and did attain."

TERRIBLE FAMINE IN PALESTINE.

PEOPLE EATING GRASS.

Amsterdam, June 30.
The Jewish Correspondence Bureau publishes a letter graphically describing the terrible famine in Northern Palestine. It says that owing to Turkish requisitions prices of food stuffs are extortionate, all shops are closed and many die of hunger in the streets. The people eat the grass growing on the graves, and hundreds of orphans are wandering naked and famished.

THE JEWISH CORRESPONDENCE BUREAU.

PACIFISTS VASTLY IN MINORITY.

A new Labour Executive was elected yesterday, under a "free" widened constitution. It consists of 21 members, 16 of whom are pacifists. The Executive is a vast majority of war supporters, but the additional members are mainly pacifists, thus increasing the pacifist section. It is noteworthy that the Minister, Mr. J. B. Clynes, has been returned at the head of the poll with over two million votes, being 400,000 more than the nearest competitor. The new chairman, Mr. James McHardy, of the Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Federation, is a determined supporter of the war policy.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED.

A SOLEMN PROTEST AGAINST THE MEXICAN DECREE.

Washington, June 30.
The State Department has published a solemn protest against the Mexican decree of 18th Feb. establishing a tax on all land.
Publication was only decided upon when it was learned that Mexican newspapers, after printing President Wilson's speech to the Mexican Congress, almost immediately published the text of the United States oil embargo, with comments declaring that it was inconsistent with the President's speech.
The State Department says: "It is usual for friendly governments to take permission before publishing such documents. It declares that the Mexican tax practically amounts to a declaration in which the United States cannot acquiesce."
(Continued on Page 2)

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	* Tango Maru, 13,500 tons	SAT., 17th Aug. 11 a.m.
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PROSPERITY.

OUR GIGANTIC DEBT.

Mr. Asquith visited Derby recently in connection with the meeting of the National Liberal Federation. He had an enthusiastic reception at the meeting of the Liberal Council in the Central Hall.

Mr. Asquith said that in these days they must walk warily lest they should incur the reproach of committing a breach of what in the journalistic jargon of the hour was called the party truce. He was all for the party truce, and he thought he had shown that whilst we were engaged in this life and death struggle on the side of freedom against the reactionary powers of the world it was of vital interest not only to ourselves and to our Allies, but to humanity.

It was ten years since by their free choice he was nominated to be leader of the Liberal party. "He had not resigned the position—(loud cheers)—and he was not aware that he had been deposed," (laughter). Until the time came when his natural faculties deserted him, of which event he would not doubt receive timely warning from his candid friends, he had no intention of doing so.

(Laughter.)

The period divided itself into two chapters, the outbreak of the war being the dividing line. Speaking frankly as a party leader to party men, he claimed that the years preceding the war were among the most strenuous and fruitful in the annals of the Liberal party.

FORTUNES OF IRELAND.

These were critical moments in the fortunes of Ireland, let them remember that more was at stake in all this, more than even the future of Ireland or the future of the British Empire. If they asked him at that moment what he considered to be the one thing that was most necessary and most urgent in the interests not only of Great Britain and Ireland or of the British Empire, but in the interests of the Allied cause and the future of the world, he would say without a moment's hesitation that it was reconciliation in Ireland. (Cheers.) They heard disquieting reports, but he refused to believe that at this supreme moment the British and Irish statesmanship was so bankrupt that it could not find an honourable solution.

In the present circumstances, and speaking to them as Liberals, he would say that they had two paramount and overwhelming obligations. The first and the obvious one was to devote themselves, as they had always done, to the whole-hearted prosecution of the war, with a view to the speedy attainment of a clean peace. Any other peace they did not desire. There was a great struggle proceeding at this moment in which their interests were absorbed, and if they had been able to foresee events they might have postponed the meeting, but there was no doubt that the skill of our generals and the indomitable tenacity of our soldiers would more than hold their own.

HOW TO MEET OUR DEBTS.

He proposed to confine himself to one aspect of the future which in a sense dominated all others, that was national finance. Our national debt at the close of this financial year would be £9,000,000,000, and if the war went on another year it would be £9,000,000,000. Debt charges, pre-war services, and the new services which must follow the war brought up a colossal total upon which it was not safe even to conjecture. That brought him to the question, How was it to be met? Frankly and without any qualification or reserve it could be met in one way only, and that was by increasing the national wealth, and that meant by increasing in

efficiency and output the productive capacities of the capital and industries of the people. It was just here that they might come to the dividing point and would have to call for the trenchant and examples which had made Liberals escape a double danger—on the one side the danger of a return to the artificial system of Protection, and on the other side the danger of excessive trust in State supervision and control. They must not be ashamed or afraid to have in their minds and on their lips what many people in these days regarded as an out-cry and even threadbare formula, Free Trade. (Cheers.)

FREE TRADE INDISPENSABLE.

It was true the war had brought about many changes in the economic structure of the world, and it would be ridiculous to show themselves, for the sake of an imaginary or "superstitious" consistency, blind to the teachings of experience; but he stated his opinion for what it was worth—he knew of nothing in the experience of this war which should lead them to a momentary doubt that in a country circumstanced like ours Free Trade in its largest and most generous sense would be at least as necessary for the country as before the war.

With regard to State control he said their experience had not been altogether happy under the domination of a cabinet of controllers. To suppose we could maintain competition against the world under State control was the ildest and emptiest dream. Taxation must satisfy free conditions; it must not fetter the free and natural development of our industries and markets. It must not check or penalize saving and accumulation, and it must adjust with far more equity than was possible under our present system the burden of payment and the capacity to pay.

STATE AND SHIPPING.

UNCERTAINTY OF OFFICIAL METHODS.

It is rather more than two years since a strong committee, presided over by Sir Alfred Booth, was appointed by the then President of the Board of Trade to consider the position of the shipping and shipbuilding industries after the war. There is reason to believe that the report was completed some time ago, and both owners and builders are now asking if there is any obstacle to its publication.

At a recent gathering in Glasgow Dr. Addison, the Minister of Reconstruction, referred to a meeting of owners which he had attended. Some of those present at that meeting expressed sincere anxiety regarding the nature of the Government policy towards what was called the "nationalization of shipping," and he added that he did not see how the Government could control, to the advantage of trade shipping, which traded in waters thousands of miles away from home ports and possibly never entered a home port from one year's end to another. Undoubtedly this nervousness does exist, and if it could be allayed an additional encouragement would be given to owners and builders to put forward their maximum efforts under the system of control which, it is generally recognized, is absolutely necessary during the war.

It is regrettable that any stimulus other than patriotism should be required, but delays at the present time are too often attributed to the fact that under Government requisitioning individuals no longer have any direct personal interest in dispatching their cargoes, or in the control of their ships. The maximum of tact has undoubtedly worried builders in the past. Restoration of confidence in the future would certainly go far to stimulate that enthusiasm of builders and owners that is essential to an immediate maximum effort.—Times.

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Sailings from Hongkong at Noon.
S.S. "VENEZUELA" WEDNESDAY, July 17th, 1918
S.S. "ECUADOR" WEDNESDAY, Aug. 14th, 1918
S.S. "COLOMBIA" WEDNESDAY, Sept. 11th, 1918

These Steamers have the most modern equipment including overhead electric fans and electric lighting ALL LOWER BERTHS and large comfortable staterooms (All single and two berths only).

The Safety and Comfort of Passengers is our first consideration. Special care is given to the cuisine and the attendance on passengers cannot be surpassed.

Tickets are interchangeable with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Canadian Pacific Ocean Service Ltd.

For further information, rates, itineraries, schedules etc., apply to—
COMPANY'S OFFICE in Alexandra Building, Chater Road.
TELEPHONE 141.

BANKS

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £15,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS:
Sterling £15,000,000
Silver £15,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES £15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK—Chairman,
G. T. M. ELLIS, Esq.,—Deputy

S. H. DODD, Esq., E. V. D. PATT, Esq.,
C. S. GIBBY, Esq., J. A. PLEMMER, Esq.,
Hon. Mr. D. LINDSAY, Hon. Mr. K. S. SELLERS,
W. L. PATTISON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—N. J. STARR, Esq.

MANAGER:
Shanghai—A. G. STEPHEN, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON COUNTY AND WESTMINSTER BANK, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Accounts at the rate of Two per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months 2 1/2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 3 " " " "
" 12 " 4 " " " "

N. J. STARR,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, March 23, 1918.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed on the minimum monthly balances at 2 PER CENT per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option balances of £100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT per annum.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
N. J. STARR,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong May 14, 1918.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1853.

HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,200,000
RESERVE FUNDS £2,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES £1,500,000

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking business transacted.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED DEPOSITS received for 1 year or shorter periods at rates which will be quoted on application.

T. C. DOWNING,
Manager.

Hongkong, May 7, 1917.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital £1,500,000
Subscribed £1,125,000
Paid-up £625,000
Reserve Fund £500,000

BANKERS.
BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON JOHN STURGE BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at 2 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances, and on Fixed Deposits at rates which may be ascertained on application.

O. CHAMPKIN,
Acting Manager.

No. 7, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong, Oct. 3, 1917.

NOTICE.

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